

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT**

Please amend the Abstract as shown below.

**Abstract**

A recording medium drive device includes a body; at least a signal reading device, of a signal writing device for writing signals to a recording medium and the signal reading device for reading signals provided within the body, and a front panel covering the front of the body and having an insertion/removal opening for inserting and removing the recording medium to and from the body. The front panel is supported in a freely detachable manner as a result of engagement with the body, and the engagement is achieved by moving the front panel towards the body, and a force to move the front panel away from the body acts in a direction releasing the engagement.